

bro' Phelps?" I have tho't best to get some intimation
from you, as to the result of an application from
a small weak band, to become their Teacher
& Pastor. I wish you would write me
immediately and on rpt^t of your letter (if favorably
I will get the brethren ^{together} and see what can be
done. The organization (if any) will be such
in all respects, as will please you.

Yours ho'ly &c

Lyman W. Gilbert

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Mr. Lyman W. Gilbert

New York, Mar. 16, 1842

New York Mar 15 '42

Dear Bro Phelps

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A few brethren, ^{of kindred spirit,} in this city, have been talking of getting up a church for you, in case you will come.

Times are so very hard that I am not prepared to say what can be done; but if you are so situated that you could come to N.Y. in case sufficient means can be raised to pay the expenses of worship & give you a support, we shall try hard to bring it about. If we can begin, I think it will be an easy matter, with the blessing of God, to draw together a strong band by January next. We shall have to begin down low - get a cheap place to worship in & ⁱⁿ all things conform ourselves to our poor (pecuniarily & spiritually) condition & then God will raise us up. We have not made any inquiry abt a place of worship, for it is not likely that any effort will be made unless we can get you for our pastor. I have been travelling for nearly 2 y^r. I returned abt the 1st of Sept. Before I returned, I had made up my mind to make an effort to get up a chh for you. On reaching home I found Mr. Mahan here laboring with considerable success. The result of his labors, is the intention to form a new chh, with the expectation of having some minister ~~for~~ as stated supply, and in addition Mr. Henry or Mr. Mahan about 6 mont in the year. They have not yet organized, altho' they meet regularly for worship on the Sabbath & thro' the week, in the lecture room of the "Medical College" in Crosby St. There is room for more chhs here. We ought to have more.

If such a move sh^d meet with your approbation, and it sh^d be consistent with your present engagements & with your feelings, to take hold with us, we will then see what can be done. I would ^{have} called the brethren together before writing to you, but as the whole matter will turn upon the question, "Can we get

PHELPS
MSS.